

# The Socorro Chieftain.

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SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1907

NO. 24

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Hold an Important Regular Meeting in the Court House Beginning Monday July 1.

## FIX THE TAX LEVY FOR 1907

And Make Some Abatements from the Assessed Valuations Made by the Assessor.

At a regular meeting of the board of county commissioners held at the court house in this city beginning Monday, July 1, there were present Commissioners Pedro S. Contreras and Alfredo Armijo, Sheriff Aniceto C. Abeytia by S. C. Abeytia, deputy, Interpreter E. S. Stapleton, and County Clerk E. H. Sweet. Owing to the absence of Chairman David Farr adjournment was taken until 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, when a full board was present.

Abatements were made in Assessor A. B. Baca's raises in assessed valuations as follows:

### ABATEMENTS.

Gregorio Jaramillo... p p \$ 200 00  
Andreas A. Romero... p p 3,850 00  
Mrs. J. P. Romero, estate... p p 2,625 00  
Silvestre Esquivel... r e 875 00  
Melicio Apodaca... p p 525 00  
Flavio Chavez... p p 175 00  
Ramon Torres... p p 500 00  
Matias Contreras... p p 900 00  
Leopoldo Contreras... p p 495 00  
C. Miera... p p 75 00  
Pio Papa... p p 295 00  
E. A. Clemens... p p 375 00  
Juan Chavez y Lucero... p p 441 50  
Silvestre Carrillo... p p 95 00  
Victor Sais... p p 7,000 00  
Jose Garcia... p p 525 00  
Jose Ignacio Aragon... p p 875 00  
H. O. Bursum... p p 4,375 00  
Solomon Luna... p p 1,750 00  
Frank A. Hubbell... p p 7,000 00  
Anastasio Baca... p p 525 00  
Las Animas Sheep Co.,... p p 1,750 00  
Esquibel Pino... p p 120 00  
B. A. Pino... p p 450 00  
Red River Cattle Co. p p 9,000 00  
Abran Contreras... p p 700 00

The board sustained the assessor's raise in the assessed valuation of the St. Louis Smelting & Refining company's property. Notice of appeal was given.

The board refused to abate any taxes on patented mining property, or, under instructions from the territorial board of equalization, to change the assessed valuation of \$20 per acre. C. C. Catron gave notice of appeal with respect to the Juanita and Ambrosia mining properties.

E. A. Clemens asked the board to re-classify the grazing lands assessed by the assessor, claiming that he owned land of one class at \$1.00 per acre and of another class at 30 cents per acre, and that the assessor had raised this land to \$1.25 per acre. The board declined to take any action until the advice of the district attorney could be obtained.

Montague Stevens, as representative of the Mogollon Improvement & Development company, asked the board to assist the people of the western part of the county in building an automobile road from Magdalena to Mogollon and Cooney. The board advised Mr. Stevens that they would render any assistance they consistently could.

Attorney Jas. G. Fitch offered to settle the taxes of Ilfeld Brothers for the years 1902 and 1903 on a basis of 20 per cent. The matter was referred to the district attorney.

The board approved the action of the board of education of the city of Socorro in making a levy of 12½ mills on the dollar for school purposes for the year 1907, and ordered the assessor to enter the levy.

The board fixed the tax levy for 1907 as follows:

### TAX LEVY FOR 1907.

#### For Territorial Purposes.

Cattle Indemnity... 14 mills  
Sheep Sanitary... 3½  
Index... ½  
General County Fund... 5  
General School Fund... 2  
Court... 7  
Interest... 2  
Road... 7  
Survey... ½  
C. H. and Jail... 5

### Wild Animal... 4

### SOCORRO COUNTY LEVY

Int. on Water Bonds... 8 mills

General Fund... 2

School Fund... 12½

A report of special levies voted in various precincts for school purposes was introduced by Superintendent D. A. Ortega and approved as follows:

### SPECIAL SCHOOL LEVIES.

Dist. Mills Dist. Mills

3 5 25 10

4 15 27 15

5 10 28 5

6 15 30 10

7 5 31 5

8 10 33 5

9 10 35 5

10 5 36 5

11 5 37 5

12 10 38 5

13 5 39 5

14 5 40 6

15 5 41 5

16 5 42 5

17 5 44 15

18 5 45 5

19 5 46 5

20 10 47 5

21 10 48 10

22 10 49 5

23 5 50 5

### BONDS APPROVED

Bonds were approved as follows: Fred K. Cook, butcher, precinct 11; Tate & Balke, butchers, 20; David Gonzales, road supervisor, 7; Casimiro Montoya, road supervisor, 3; Manuel Garcia, road supervisor, 31; David Giron, road supervisor, 44; Alvin Carriaga, road supervisor, 15; Estevan Flores, road supervisor, 12; Porfirio Padilla, road supervisor, 30; Expedition Armijo, constable, 11.

The quarterly report of Jose E. Torres, county treasurer and collector, by his deputy, Conrado A. Baca, was checked, found correct, and approved.

Chairman David Farr reported that under instructions given him by the board at the last regular meeting he had borrowed from the Bank of Magdalena \$6,406.84, at 10 per cent interest, to be expended in making repairs on the court house and jail.

The report of Sheriff Aniceto C. Abeytia on liquor and gambling licenses was found correct and approved.

### BILLS APPROVED.

Bills were approved and ordered paid as follows:

David Farr, salary and mileage... \$ 80.40

Pedro Contreras, same... 79.80

Alfredo Armijo, same... 77.80

H. A. Wolford, salary... 125 00

E. H. Sweet, salary, stamps etc... 235 25

Domingo Baca, salary... 80 80

J. E. Torres, stamps... 20 65

A. B. Baca, same... 11 45

Mrs. E. K. Hilton, stationery... 95

Dr. C. F. Blackington, services... 67 00

E. S. Stapleton, interpreting... 16 00

New Mexican Printing Co., tax rolls... 20 00

Socorro Co. Pub. Co., stationery and publishing proceedings... 270 35

Socorro Telephone Co., phone rent... 22 50

City of Socorro, water... 75 00

S. C. Abeytia, jailer... 156 00

A. C. Abeytia, sheriff, board of prisoners, etc... 658 36

El Defensor, subscription... 2 00

Jno. Dwyer, j. p. fees... 15 00

Matias M. Torres, same... 12 36

Mauricio Miera, same... 6 00

A. E. Green, same... 40 20

Tomas Cuillar, same... 2 00

Melcor Silva, interpreting in j. p. court... 2 00

G. E. Sanchez, constable fees... 2 00

Teodoro Lucero, same... 6 50

Teofilo Sisneros, same... 8 50

Terese Lopez, j. p. fees... 5 00

Ignacio Santillana, same... 5 35

Tomas Hernandez, coronor fees... 11 75

A. B. Baca, commission as assessor... 109 53

D. A. Ortega, salary, stamps, etc... 247 70

A. A. Sedillo, office rent Socorro Co. Pub. Co. stationery... 8 25

T. J. Matthews, repairs on Blue Canon road... 250 00

Harry Herman, lumber... 33 28

A. D. Coon, material... 6 10

Donacio Baca, labor... 100 00

Lorenzo M. Vigil, same... 120 00

E. S. Stapleton, same... 2 25

A. C. Abeytia, material... 66 55

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## PRISON MANAGEMENT BY CAPT. TRELFORD HAS BEEN VERY BAD

According to a Letter Written by Acting Governor Reynolds to the Board of Penitentiary Commissioners. Letter Cites Extravagance and Probable Deficit.

According to a letter addressed by acting Governor Reynolds to the board of penitentiary commissioners, still another feature of the late reform administration lacks very much of being creditable to an administration for which so much political virtue was claimed. The letter is as follows:

Gentlemen: In connection with the report of Mr. Trelford as to the financial condition of the penitentiary on December 1, 1906, your attention is called to the fact that it is in many respects inaccurate and misleading. For instance, some of the totals cannot be verified by summing up the items which go to make them totals, although they may be the result of typographical errors. So much cannot be said, however, for his imputation on page 5 that no record of accounts receivable was made by his predecessor, since Mr. Trelford himself received for something more than \$4,100 of such accounts and afterwards collected them.

An even more egregious blunder, or deliberate misrepresentation, is the statement of credit on page 11, where amongst other items there is deducted \$71,000 on account of receipts from convicts' earnings. Mr. Trelford's own figures on pages 9 and 10 show that \$8,000 of this amount was a direct appropriation by the legislature, while \$4,196 was paid in by Mr. Bursum, who it seems also paid in \$500 more on April 2, 1906, before he relinquished the superintendency. This \$4,696 was not held in trust as it should have been pending the decision of the court, but all of it has been spent and should the court find that Mr. Bursum did not owe that sum to the territory it will become a charge against the penitentiary, which institution is without funds to meet the payment.

Much more serious, however, is the present state of affairs, as an examination of the official records in the office of the Territorial treasurer shows that the finances of the penitentiary are in a very unsatisfactory condition, this being true particularly with reference to the maintenance fund. It appears that payments for this fiscal year have been made out of this fund as follows:

First quarter... \$13,034 47  
Second quarter... 6,886 95  
June... 2,484 25

Total... \$22,405 67

Unpaid bills on hand more than... \$6,000 00

Total... \$28,405 67

As these expenditures have been incurred in seven months it is clear that at this rate the expenditures for the year would aggregate \$50,000, while the appropriation itself is but \$35,000, and since the recent management of the penitentiary has spent \$28,000 out of this fund in seven months, the incoming superintendent is confronted with the problem of continuing the maintenance for five months with less than \$7,000 available in the fund.

Many claims have been made through the press and otherwise as to the unusually economical management of this institution under the superintendency of Mr. Trelford, but investigation of the records shows that these claims were not only utterly specious but were in no sense borne out by the facts or figures. For instance, the penitentiary reports for the past years show that the total disbursements of the institution were as follows in round figures:

1903... \$70,400  
1904... 86,200  
1906... 97,000

Now, what is the prospect which confronts the management during the current fiscal year? As already stated, the expenditures during seven months have been from the maintenance fund... \$22,405.67

Bills payable for maintenance (June contracts) about... 7,000.00

Convicts' earnings fund... 22,711.64

Road fund... 4,423.31

Current expense fund... 9,099.39

Total... \$65,640.01

This rate of expenditure if continued for the remaining five months of the present fiscal year would result in the expenditures of this institution reaching the enormous sum of \$111,600, which sum is \$14,000 larger than the expenditures for 1906, \$25,000 larger than the expenditures for 1905 and 41,000 larger than the expenditures for 1904 and prior years.

It will be argued that some bills for the year 1904 were paid out of the fund for 1905, some bills for 1905 paid out of the fund for 1906 and possibly that some bills for 1906 were paid out of the fund for the current year. It may be argued that some permanent improvements have been added to the institution as a result of convict labor and by expenditures from the convicts' earnings fund, but my personal knowledge of the condition of the institution in past years, and its condition at the present time, warrants me in saying that there was nothing in the nature of permanent improvements installed under the management of Superintendent Trelford, which in any way represents such an enormous increase in the expenditures. The same may be said with reference to the slightly increased number of convicts now being confined in the institution, as this slight increase in numbers is by no means sufficient to account for any such increase in expenditures.

These facts show clearly that heroic measures are absolutely essential looking toward a curtailment of what is evident to have been either gross mismanagement or extravagance, or possibly both, in order to avoid a deficit of \$15,000 or \$20,000 in the maintenance account of the institution, since 80 per cent of this fund has been used already, although only seven months of the fiscal year have expired.

Respectfully,

J. W. REYNOLDS,

Acting Governor.

To the Board of Penitentiary Commissioners, Santa Fe, N. M.

### THE NEW GAME LAW

#### Provisions in Regard to the Killing of Doves, Quail and Deer.

For the benefit of its readers The Chieftain gives some of the provisions of the game law now in force as follows:

Doves may be killed with a gun from July 15 to May 1.

Quail may be killed with a gun during the months of October, November, December, and January.

Deer with horns may be killed with a gun from October 15 to November 30, but no person shall kill or have in his possession more than one such deer in such period.

Mrs. E. W. Wildenstein and infant son and Miss Emma Duff were guests at the Park House Monday from Magdalena.

### BURSUM CASE IS IN COURT

Referee Safford's Report Has Been Compiled and Submitted to Judge Parker.

There is good authority for the statement that Charles V. Safford, referee in the suit brought by Hon. H. O. Bursum for an auditing of his accounts while he was superintendent of the penitentiary, has completed his report and submitted it to Judge Frank W. Parker, in whose court the suit was brought. There is absolutely no foundation for any public statement as to how Mr. Bursum's accounts stand, for Mr. Safford has positively declined to make any such statement. There is no lack of evidence, however, that many discrepancies exist in the so-called report submitted to Governor Hagerman by McMahon, the Colorado Springs expert. The full facts of the interesting case will be brought to light in a very few days, and they are awaited with a great deal of public interest.

### TO MAKE A BASEBALL PARK

Conrado A. Baca Has the Enterprise in Charge and Solicits Subscriptions for Stock.

Conrado A. Baca has undertaken an enterprise that if carried to a successful issue will be of great credit and benefit to Socorro. Mr. Baca has organized a stock company with the object of laying out and enclosing a baseball park in Socorro, building a grand stand, and doing whatever else may be necessary to secure the comfort and pleasure of the city's lovers of the national game and the profit of the company's stockholders. He is confident that investment in the company's stock will prove to be a profitable one. It is his purpose to raise \$1,000. The subscription book was opened yesterday and a considerable part of this amount was secured at once. This looks like success.

### BLUE CANON ROAD NOW OPEN

This Important Thoroughfare Has Been Put into First Class Condition Once More.

The Blue Canon road over Socorro mountain is in good condition for travel once more. The county commissioners recently appropriated three hundred and fifty dollars to be expended in making repairs on the road and the contract to do the work was given to Captain T. J. Matthews. The repairs are now completed with the exception of the blasting out of one boulder, which will be done in a day or two. Captain Matthews says that Magdalena parties have offered to contribute liberally to a fund for the repair of the Indian Hill road, also, and that that road will probably soon be put into good condition.

### Marriage Licenses Issued.

Marriage licenses have recently been issued in the office of Probate Clerk E. H. Sweet to the following named persons:

Pedro N. Chavez, aged 21 years, and Maria Benavidez, aged 20 years, both of Magdalena.

Antonio Montaña, aged 24 years, of Escondida and Angelica Aldereta, aged 17 years, of Polvadera.

Serapio Tafuya, aged 21 years, and Bonifacia Marquez, aged 20 years, both of Quemado.

Neri Silva, aged 23 years, of San Pedro and Angedita Jaramillo, aged 18 years, of San Antonio.

Onecimo Savedra, aged 22 years, of Bosquecito and Dominica Tafuya, aged 21 years, of San Pedro.

Teofilo Chavez, aged 21 years, and Francisquita Barela, aged 17 years, both of Socorro.

Emilio Chavez, aged 39 years, and Ana Maria Armijo, aged 37 years, both of Frisco.

Jose B. Sandoval, aged 21 years, and Paulita Arimijo, aged 20 years, both of Frisco.

Estanislao Baca, aged 27 years, and Anita Otero, aged 20 years, both of Socorro.

For delicious ice cream soda and cool drinks, go to Winkler's.

### JUGGLED THE FIGURES

Captain Trelford Left only \$2,000 Worth of Coal in Place of \$7,000 Worth.

### MIS-STATEMENTS IN LETTER

To the Governor in Answer to His Letter to Board of Penitentiary Commissioners.

In a reply to Governor Reynolds' letter to the board of penitentiary commissioners, published in full in this issue of The Chieftain, Captain Trelford undertook to show that owing to the large amount of supplies on hand at the penitentiary and the prospective revenue of the institution there should be a substantial balance on hand instead of a deficit at the end of the year. The nature of Captain Trelford's letter is well shown in a special dispatch to the Albuquerque Citizen as follows:

As the taking of the inventory of supplies, etc., by the new superintendent at the territorial prison continues, it is becoming more and more apparent that Superintendent Marion Littrell has his work cut out for him in attempting to carry the institution through the next five months of the fiscal year on the maintenance fund left by Trelford.

Trelford in replying to the letter of the acting governor to the prison commissioners stated that he had left on hand some \$7,000 worth of coal. It did not take long to check up the supply of coal on hand. It was found that there were some 300 tons of coal in the bunkers and about 200 or 300 tons scattered about the prison yard. At the rate of purchase of prison coal, this fuel would be worth about \$2,000.

If the supplies on hand which do not promise to make as good a showing as the coal supply, have been estimated in the same manner by Trelford, the new superintendent will be unable to make both ends meet.

Considerable amusement was caused here by the publication in the Morning Journal of Albuquerque of the following table on maintenance prepared by ex-Superintendent Trelford:

Trial balance, Jan. 30th, 1907: Accounts receivable... \$11,300.47  
Penitentiary current expense fund... 3,469.00  
Convicts earnings fund... 760.54  
Penitentiary board fund... 298.75  
El Camino real fund... 5,490.06  
Penitentiary maintenance fund... 6,566.25  
Permanent improvement... 45  
Penitentiary income fund... 13.84

Total... \$27,899.36

According to Trelford's statement in his letter to the acting governor the prison has \$27,899.36 with which to operate five months. If this were true Trelford ought to be placed on the roll of honor for high financial management. Evidently, however, he has overlooked the fact that outside of \$6,566.25 in the maintenance fund he has no other fund available to support the prison. It might be interesting to hear him explain how he would use the El Camino real fund, the permanent improvement fund, penitentiary income fund and a few other funds enumerated by him as "available for maintenance" for the purpose of maintenance.

Trelford also lists \$11,000 worth of bills receivable as also eligible for the support of the institution. However, at the rate the prison books show these bills are being collected, they would not guarantee enough to materially change the net result.

Trelford also includes the convicts' earnings but at the rate bills receivable have been increasing under his administration, the convicts' earnings appear to be in the shape of I. O. U's principally.

Had Trelford left the brick plant in shape to operate, the new superintendent might be able to bring the convicts' earnings up to standard. As matters now stand, however, it will be

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